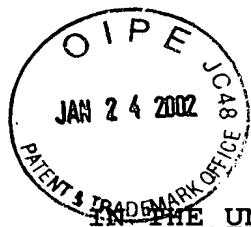


2877



Dkt. 60046/JPW/PT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David John Watson et al.  
Serial No.: 09/378,666 Examiner: Sang Nguyen  
Filed : August 20, 1999 Group Art Unit: 2877  
For : IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO THE MEASUREMENT OF  
PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTION

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
January 3, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)**

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RECEIVED

In order to ensure compliance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97(a)-(d), applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the following references, which are also listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, cited in a European Search Report in connection with a corresponding European patent application. Copies of the references are attached hereto as **Exhibits 1-3**, respectively:

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,361,403 issued November 30, 1982 to Hendricus G. Loos (**Exhibit 1**);
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,541,719 issued September 17, 1985 to Philip J. Wyatt (**Exhibit 2**); and
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,576,827 issued November 19, 1996 to Michael L. Strickland (**Exhibit 3**).

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Applicants also submit herewith as **Exhibit B** a Communication by the European Patent Office dated October 5, 2001 and European Search Report enclosed therewith in connection with corresponding European Patent Application No. EP 99 30 6657.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1), after the mailing date of a first Office Action, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Applicants certify, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. The date of mailing of the Communication from the European Patent Office is October 5, 2001, and therefore this Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1).

In the event that a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application has issued which has not yet been received by applicants or connected with the application file in the undersigned attorney's office, applicants hereby request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, and incorporation of the certification made above.

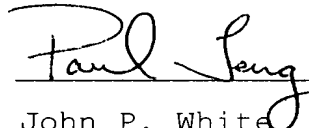
If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number

David John Watson et al.  
Serial No.: 09/378,666  
Filed: August 20, 1999  
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provided below.

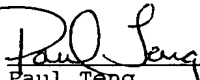
No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. White  
Registration No. 28,678  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
Paul Teng  
Reg. No. 40,837

January 3, 2002  
Date

Form PTO-1449						U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office								Atty. Docket No. <b>60046/JPW/PT</b>				Serial No. <b>09/378,666</b>															
<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)</div>																		Applicants: <b>David John Watson et al.</b>															
																		Filing Date: <b>August 20, 1999</b>								Group Art Unit: <b>2877</b>							
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>																																	
Examiner Initial		Document Number								Date		Name				Class		Subclass		Filing Date if Appropriate													
		4 3 6 1 4 0 3								11-30-82		Hendricus G. Loos																					
		4 5 4 1 7 1 9								9-17-85		Philip J. Wyatt																					
		5 5 7 6 8 2 7								11-19-96		Michael L. Strickland																					
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>																																	
		Document Number								Date		Country				Class		Subclass		Translation													
																				Yes		No											
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>																																	
EXAMINER										DATE CONSIDERED																							
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.																																	

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Filed: August 20, 1999  
**Exhibit A**